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James B. Wright
Senior Attorney

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
October 20, 2000

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Wake Forest, North Carolina 27587-5900
Telephone: 919-554-7587
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Mr. David Waddell, Executive Secretary
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37243-0505


RE: Docket No. 00-00523: Universal Service for rural areas

Dear Mr. Waddell:

Enclosed for filing are the original and thirteen (13) copies of the petition of Sprint Communications Company L.P. for leave to intervene in the above proceeding, along with our check in the amount of \$25.00 in payment of the filing fee.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,


James B. Wright

JBW
Enclosures

CC: Dennis Wagner
Steve Parrott
Laura Sykora
Kaye Odum
Parties of Record (with enclosure)

POSTED
10/20/00

BEFORE THE
TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

IN RE: Universal Service for Rural Areas – The Generic Docket
Docket No.00-00523

PETITION OF SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY L.P.
FOR LEAVE TO INTERVENE

Sprint Communications Company L.P. (“Sprint”), pursuant to T.C.A. § 4-5-310 and T.C.A. § 65-2-107, petitions the Authority for leave to intervene in the above-captioned proceeding, and in support thereof states as follows:

1. Sprint is a Delaware partnership authorized to conduct business in the state of Tennessee as an interexchange and competitive local exchange company, furnishes telecommunications services in the state of Tennessee and is subject to the jurisdiction of the Authority.
2. This Petition is filed more than seven (7) days before any scheduled hearing in this matter.
3. Sprint respectfully requests that it be granted leave to intervene and participate as a party in the above-captioned proceeding in that as an interexchange and competitive local exchange company, the decisions regarding universal service which are the subject of this proceeding may directly affect Sprint's legal rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other legal interests.

4. The interests of justice and the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings will not be impaired by allowing the intervention.

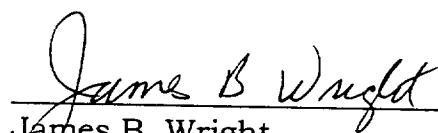
WHEREFORE, United prays:

1. That it be permitted to intervene in this proceeding and participate as a party.

2. That it have such other and further relief to which it may be entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY L.P.



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Telephone: 919-554-7587

October 20, 2000

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
(Docket No. 00-00523: Rural USF)

The undersigned certifies that on October 20, 2000, the foregoing Petition to Intervene of Sprint Communications Company L.P. was served upon the following parties of record by fax or by placing a copy of the same in the United States Mail postage prepaid and addressed as follows:

Charles B. Welch, Jr.
Counsel for Rural Coalition
Farris Mathes et. al.
618 Church Street, Suite 300
Nashville, TN 37219

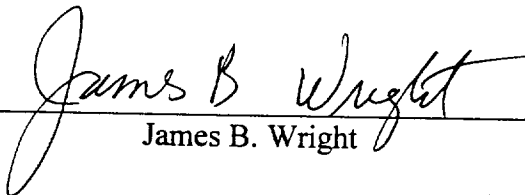
Guy Hicks
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